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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

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USIB-D-41.14/63
(COMOR-D-56/18)
3 September 1963
Limited Distribution

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Targeting for the 25X1

REFERENCES : a. USIB-D-41.14/7, Final-USIB-Approved,
11 February 1963, limited distribution
b. USIB-D-41.15/3, 29 March 1963, limited
distribution

1. The COMOR paper on the subject at Tab A is forwarded for USIB consideration and vote sheet action.

2. In submitting this paper, the Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance has advised that it considers the imminent need to complete target programming for merits information on progress to USIB and specific approval by the Board of its recommendation in paragraph 5. While this recommendation concerns only the programming of additional targets in the Sino-Soviet and Sino-Indian border areas, COMOR notes that concurrent studies are continuing on the potential significance and attainability of targets in other areas. 25X1

USIB Action Requested:

3. It is requested that Board members indicate their approval or objection to the COMOR recommendation in paragraph 5 through return to the USIB Secretariat of the vote sheet at Tab B by the close of business, 9 September 1963. Should there be any disagreement on this matter, it will be placed on the agenda of the 11 September USIB meeting for resolution.

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Attachments

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Executive Secretary

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Targeting for the [REDACTED]

1. In February the United States Intelligence Board requested the NRO to provide a standby satellite capability for use in emergency situations for the assessment of indicators of hostile military activities on the part of the USSR against the U. S. and its Allies. The NRO has undertaken to provide a standby capability which can be launched within 7 days after notice, the first of which is expected to become available in November.

2. The COMOR has devised a target list designed to meet the prime purpose to be programmed [REDACTED] It also has procedures for updating this target list as required so that the program will be current at the moment of need and current when the film reaches NPIC. Targets which appear to be most readily responsive to the satellite collection capability and to be the likely indicators of hostile activity or intent have been selected.

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3. In addition and in view of the fact that additional programming is possible, COMOR has selected certain contingency targets in other areas of the world. These are targets which could be covered without detriment to the primary mission. In a given emergency or set of circumstances indicative of hostile activity or intentions, as for example between the Soviet Union or China, orders could be issued to activate all or a part of the contingency programming in the standby. In this regard, COMOR has identified and arranged the following areas for inclusion in the programming of a standby primarily designed to cover USSR vs. U. S. and Allies situations. Such areas are, for example:

- a. Sino-Soviet border;
- b. Sino-Indian border.

4. COMOR has taken the following additional actions:

- a. Advised the Watch Committee of the present targeting and invited recommendations for specific amendments pertinent to the indications problem;

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Tab A

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b. Requested the members of the COMOR to advise their respective specialists in guided missile, nuclear, or other matters to insure [] target list is pertinent to indications;

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c. Has provided targets to the NRO to permit a CPX; results of the CPX will further permit COMOR to refine and revise the targets which are to be made available to the NRO by 15 October; and

d. Has advised the NPIC and through the members of COMOR other exploitation units of current planning in order to permit their own exploitation and analytical elements to achieve the most rapid judgment as to the status indicator targets once the film is in hand.

5. Recommendation: That the Board note the foregoing and approve, initially, the inclusion of the Sino-Soviet and Sino-Indian borders in the programming as indicated in para 3, with the explicit understanding that the decision on whether the [] be used against these areas is to be made at the time the []

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James Q. Reber

Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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TAB B
USIB-D-41.14/63
3 September 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USIB

SUBJECT : USIB Vote Sheet Action

REFERENCE : USIB-D-41.14/63, 3 September 1963

1. With respect to the recommendation in paragraph 5 of Tab A to the reference.

a. I approve. _____

b. I approve, subject to the comments
or amendments set forth in
paragraph 2 below.* _____

c. I do not concur in the recommendation.
See comments below.* _____

2. Comments or amendments:*

(Signature)

(Title)

(Date)

(Agency)

*May necessitate classification and control of this memorandum.